

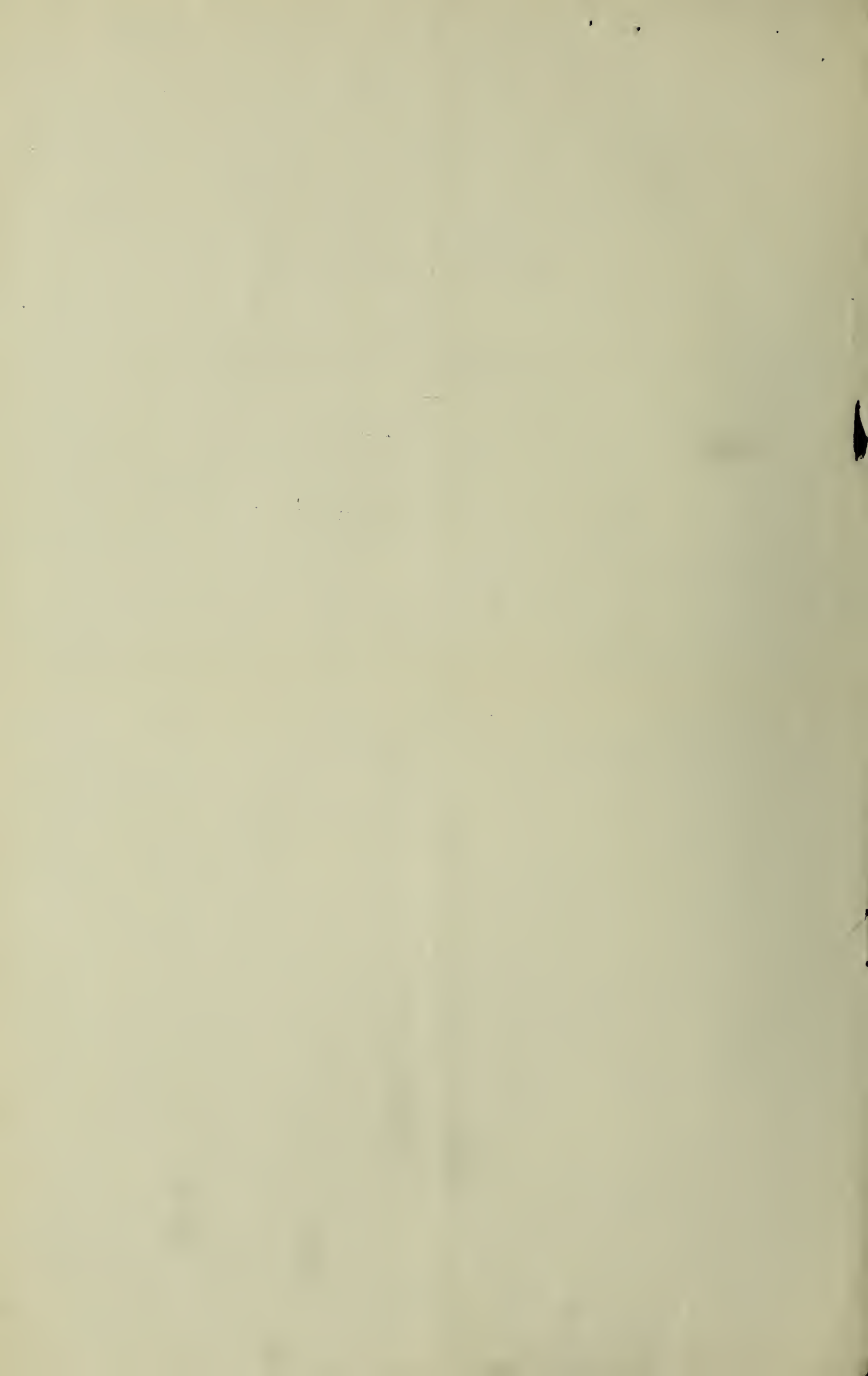
FLEETWOOD PORT

HEALTH AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL

REPORT,

1937.



PORT HEALTH REPORT.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE FLEETWOOD PORT HEALTH
AUTHORITY.

March, 1938.

Gentlemen and Madam,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report, together with the Report of the Port Health Inspector, for the year 1937.

This Report is prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Memo. No. 204/S.A.

I am, Gentlemen and Madam,

Your obedient Servant,

J. COLGAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

FORM A.

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT HEALTH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Vessels.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective.	Number of orders issued.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector.		
<u>Foreign</u> Steam Motor Sailing Fishing 	5	6,125	2	4	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	301	-	2	1	1
	Total Foreign 	6,426	2	6	1	1
<u>Coastwise</u> Steam Motor Sailing Fishing 	1,241	388,506	4	8	1	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	4,612	475,285	-	1,331	84	68
	Total Coastwise 	863,791	4	1,339	85	68
Total Foreign and Coastwise 	5,860	870,217	6	1,345	86	69

II. Trade of the Port.

During the summer months there are daily sailings to Morecambe and the Isle of Man. These sailings, being very popular, bring large numbers of passengers to the Port.

The chief trade of the Port is Deep-sea Fishing. There is no passenger service to or from Foreign Ports.

Imports and Exports.

The following are the ports or places, Foreign and British, with which Fleetwood has trade:-

	<u>Imports.</u>
Archangel	Timber.
Plymouth	China Clay.
Fowey... ..	do.
Charlestown	do.
Llandulas	Limestone.
Penmaenmawr	do.

III. Water Supply.

The fresh water supply of the Port, and for shipping, is derived direct from the mains of the Fylde Water Board.

Two samples of water taken from the Dock in each of the months of March and September were examined bacteriologically. These reports indicate that the water from the New Dock is not suitable for the washing of Fish or Fish boxes.

IV. Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933.

An arrangement exists whereby the Medical Officer of Health or Port Health Inspector is notified by the Harbour Authorities or Customs Officers of any illness that occurs on any vessel entering the Port.

The Telegraphic address of the Port Health Authority is "Portelth, Fleetwood".

The Mooring Station for vessels found to be infected with Plague, Cholera or Yellow Fever has been fixed at a position in the River Lune, Wyre Lighthouse, bearing 178°, distant 9 cables.

A Mooring Berth, within the harbour area, for suspected or infected ships, has been fixed at the Jubilee Quay, Stone Wall, Fleetwood Harbour.

Standing exemption, provided the answers to questions 1, 2 and 3 in the Declaration of Health are in the negative and the ship has not called at an infected port or seaboard, is granted in respect of the following notifiable diseases:-

Acute Polio-Encephalitis.	German Measles.
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	Measles.
(Cerebro-spinal Fever).	Malaria.
Continued Fever.	Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal).
Dysentery.	Relapsing Fever.
Epidemic Infantile Paralysis	Scarlet Fever.
(Acute Poliomyelitis).	Trench Fever.
Encephalitis Lethargica.	Tuberculosis.
Erysipelas.	Typhoid Fever (Enteric Fever).

Standing exemption from detention is also granted for vessels otherwise healthy, which arrive from a port listed under article 11.

Owing to the small number of vessels arriving from foreign ports no difficulty is experienced in carrying out the provisions of Article 16 of the Regulations.

No station exists for the purpose of cleansing persons, but there is a definite need for a station for this purpose. A steam disinfecter is provided for disinfecting clothing and bedding.

An Isolation Hospital is maintained by the Port Health Authority for cases of infectious disease occurring on vessels. This hospital was last used in 1894. It has been suggested by the Ministry of Health that hospital accommodation would be more satisfactory if arrangements could be made with some near Port Health Authority for the receipt of infectious cases from vessels. Negotiations are at present in progress with the Liverpool Authority and the Fylde, Preston and Garstang Joint Small-Pox Hospital Board, and if satisfactory arrangements can be made the present Port Isolation Hospital will be closed.

Facilities for the bacteriological examination of rats and other specimens are available.

Treatment of Venereal Disease is arranged for at the Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, and the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

No case of notifiable infectious disease occurred on any vessel entering the Port during the year.

V. Measures against Rodents.

The London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company, who own the dock estate, employ a rat catcher on the wharves and in warehouses. The trawler owners employ a rat catcher on vessels. An arrangement is now in force whereby the Authority are supplied with monthly returns of rats caught by the rat catchers and information given as to the rat population on wharves and in warehouses.

Prevention of passage of rats between ships and shore.

The master of each vessel coming from a "Foreign Port" is required to take precautions for the prevention of the passage of rats between ship and shore. The precautions are:-

- (a) Mooring ropes from ship to shore to have approved metal rat guards kept in a suitable position on the ropes during the period the vessel is in dock.
- (b) The vessel to be kept a suitable distance from the quayside.
- (c) Gangways to be well lighted at night and removed when not in use.

Methods of Deratisation.

Ships. There are two methods of rat destruction used, viz:-
(1) Fumigation by Sulphur Dioxide; (2) Trapping.

Harbour Premises and Dock Estate. Trapping is the most widely used method, and so far as buildings are concerned the only one. Recently the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company, who own the Dock Estate, have been using a proprietary article, "Cyanogas" (Calcium Cyanide) in the parts of the estate which are in the open. The approximate number of rats known to have been killed during the six months whilst this method has been in use is 382. The method of using it is by introducing it into the burrows by a hand or foot pump. When exposed to moisture hydrocyanic gas (H.C.N.) is generated. This process is only adopted when the normal business of the Dock Estate has ceased.

Rats destroyed during the year.

During the year, 1990 inspections were made to vessels and various premises. It was necessary to call the attention of the owners of six vessels to undertake deratisation, and on reinspection no further cause for complaint was observed. The total number of rats known to have been destroyed during the year from vessels and Harbour Estate was 742.

VI. Hygiene of Crews' Spaces.

TABLE J. Classification of Nuisances Discovered.

Nationality.	No. Inspected.	Defects of original construction.	Structural Defects due to wear and tear.	Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	1,339	-	21	54
Belgian	-	-	-	-
Danish	1	-	-	-
Dutch	1	-	-	-
Estonian... ..	-	-	-	-
French	2	-	-	1
German	-	-	-	-
Irish Free State...	-	-	-	-
Norwegian	2	-	-	-
Spanish	-	-	-	-
Swedish	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1,345	-	21	55

The following is a tabular list of the number and nature of the sanitary defects or nuisances found on vessels:-

Nature of Nuisance.	No. of Cases.
Crew's quarters requiring cleansing, painting, etc. ...	37
Crew's quarters damp from leaky deck, broken or defective hawsepipe, etc... ..	1
Broken portlights... ..	1
Dirty food lockers and pantries	4
Leaking decks	1
Defective W.C.'s	5
Dirty fresh water tank... ..	2
Vessels infested with rats	6
Defective stove or stove pipe	11
Vessels fumigated... ..	10
Dirty galleys	14
Broken woodwork	5
Defective ventilator	1
Total	98

VII. Unsound Food Regulations.

By the courtesy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, North Western Area, the undermentioned figures of the weight and value of fish landed at Fleetwood during the year, compared with 1936, are included, viz:-

	<u>1937.</u>		<u>1936.</u>	
	Values. £.	Weights. Cwts.	Values. £.	Weights. Cwts.
Wet Fish.	1,291,555	1,423,414	1,328,245	1,340,787
Shellfish.	4,100	3,026	2,925	2,265
	<u>1,295,655</u>	<u>1,426,430</u>	<u>1,331,170</u>	<u>1,343,052</u>

The enforcement of the Unsound Food Regulations is a very important duty in a port such as this, where large quantities of fish are landed daily, and this is especially so if the high standard of quality for which the port is noted is to be maintained. The amount surrendered during the year was 485 cwts. comprised of the various fish as set out in the list herewith.

The relations between this Department and the fishing industry are such that it has not been found necessary in a single instance to obtain a Magistrate's Order to enforce our requirements. There have, of course, been differences of opinion, but these have always been amicably settled with due regard to the consumers' interests.

The following Table gives the weight of fish landed and rejected under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations during the ten years ending December, 1937:-

Year.	Weight Landed.	Weight Rejected.		
	cwts.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1928.	1,138,843	2,020	3	14
1929.	1,158,035	2,263	1	21
1930.	1,257,927	2,153	0	25
1931.	1,226,056	2,374	0	0
1932.	1,129,914	1,698	1	0
1933.	1,086,219	858	3	0
1934.	1,084,285	1,022	2	0
1935.	1,182,907	742	2	0
1936.	1,343,052	683	1	0
1937.	1,426,430	485	0	0

The following is a list of the various kinds of fish rejected during the year 1937, as compared with 1936, under the Unsound Food Regulations as unfit for food and sent to the local Fish Meal Works for disposal:-

	1937.		1936.	
	Cwts.	qrs.	Cwts.	qrs.
Bream	6	1	33	0
Cod	13	1	17	2
Coalfish	33	1	29	2
Dogfish	5	0	92	0
Eels	0	0	0	0
Forked Hake ...	0	0	1	1
Gurnards	12	2	44	3
Haddocks	326	2	139	1
Halibut	0	0	3	1
Hake	0	0	7	2
Herrings	9	2	128	3
Ling	0	0	6	2
Lemon Soles ...	0	0	0	0
Mackerel	0	0	58	3
Megrims	1	1	12	0
Mixed Fish... ..	32	2	56	2
Pollack	10	0	3	3
Roes	0	0	21	1
Roker	2	2	1	1
Whiting	31	1	20	1
Witches	1	1	0	0
Total weight ...	485	0	683	1

(2) Most of the shell-fish beds within the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority are liable to pollution.

Mussels.

During the year several samples of mussels and water were taken from the layings in the River Wyre at Wardleys (in the civil Parishes of Hambleton and Stalmine with Staynall).

The bacteriological report regarding the mussels indicated that they were unsafe for human consumption.

The laboratory report on samples of water from the layings indicated numerous excremental organisms together with a high bacterial count; apparently the river water is considerably polluted by sewage.

These beds have been continuously closed since the closure order of 28th March, 1934.

(3) Samples are sent for examination to the City Bacteriologist, Liverpool, and the Clinical Research Association, London.

Premises on Harbour and Dock.

During the year 1,071 visits were made to various premises which included 51 visits to the Fish Meal and Oil Works and 37 visits to the Railway Incinerator.

The following table gives the number of instances in which nuisances or defects were found:-

	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>
Dirty conveniences	2	2
Defective conveniences	2	2
Choked drain	8	8
Accumulation	7	7
Portion of fish stage not properly cleansed... ..	17	17
Fish Meal & Oil Works - dirty barrels	2	2
Defective rain-water pipe ...	1	1
Dirty floors	4	4
Premises requiring limewashing	-	-
	<u>43</u>	<u>43</u>

